



# Media Fairness Initiative

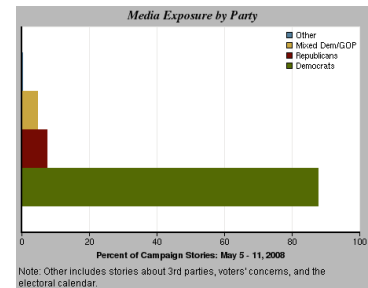
## A Look at Bias in the News



### Democrats Receive 10 times More Coverage than GOP 5/21/08

The Democratic presidential candidates received over 10 times more news coverage than Sen. John McCain, according to the latest weekly survey by the nonpartisan Project for Excellence in Journalism.

Sen. Hillary Clinton was a significant factor in 70 percent of the campaign stories from May 5-11, her highest level of coverage this year. Obama was a close second at 67 percent. **Sen. McCain received his lowest level of coverage in 2008 with just 12 percent.**



### AP Writer: Obama is 'Something Special'



In a May 10 article, *Associated Press* writer David Babington wrote in glowing terms about Sen. Barack Obama's presidential campaign, describing his victory in South Carolina as **"amazing"** and referring to the candidate as **"an electrifying speaker"** with an **"incandescent smile and silky oratory."**

Babington also described Obama as **"something special, a man who makes difficult tasks look easy, who seems to touch millions of diverse people with a message of hope that somehow doesn't sound Pollyannaish."**

The *AP* article prompted this sarcastic response from *The Wall Street Journal's* James Taranto: "Is Barack Obama merely something special, or is he truly extraordinary? Babington can't take a position on that. He's a professional reporter, after all, and has to maintain his detachment."

### NBC Misrepresents President Bush's Comments on Iran

This week, NBC News aired an interview with President Bush on *Nightly News* and *The Today Show* in which it removed key statements from the President's response to a question about diplomatic relations with Iran.

While some editing is to be expected, in this case **NBC significantly misrepresented the President's response so that it appeared he agreed with the premise of the question, when in fact he explicitly disputed it.**

In a letter addressed to NBC News President Steve Capus, Ed Gillespie, Counselor to the President, argued that NBC's **"deceitful editing to further a media-manufactured storyline is utterly misleading and irresponsible."**